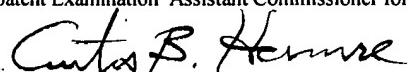


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: AOYAGI et al  
Serial No.: 09/509,449  
Filed: March 28, 2000  
Notice of Allow. Date: NA  
Due Date: NA  
Title: METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Customer Service Center, Office of Initial patent Examination Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 18, 2000.

By:   
Curtis B. Hamre

Customer Service Center  
Office of Initial patent Examination  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

Sir:

AUG 03 2000

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

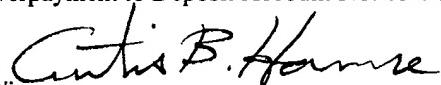
- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing  
 Other: Communication Regarding Change of Correspondence Address; Request for Corrected Filing Receipt; copy of Filing Receipt with corrections marked; copy of Preliminary Amendment filed March 28, 2000  
 Return postcard

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300



By:   
Name: Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No.: 29,165  
CBH:jw

S/N 09/509449



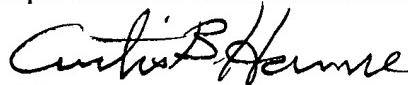
Receipt #8

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |   |                 |             |
|-------------|---|-----------------|-------------|
| Applicant:  | AOYAGI et al.                               | Examiner:       | Unknown     |
| Serial No.: | 09/509449                                   | Group Art Unit: | 1643        |
| Filed:      | March 28, 2000                              | Docket No.:     | 594.352USWO |
| Title:      | METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS |                 |             |

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 18, 2000.

By:   
Name: Curtis B. Hamre

**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT**

Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

AUG 03 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a photocopy of the filing receipt from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified application showing requested corrections.

The title is incorrect. Please replace "METHOD FOR ASSAYING HEPATITIS C VIRUS" with --METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS--.

Correction of the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and issuance of a corrected filing receipt are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

By 

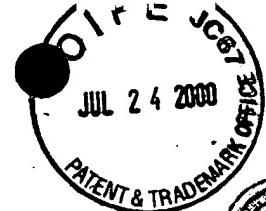
Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165  
CBH:jjw

Dated: July 18, 2000

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC00000005191524\*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAddress: ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENT AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING DATE | GRP ART UNIT | FIL FEE REC'D | ATTY.DOCKET.NO | DRAWINGS | TOT CLAIMS | IND CLAIMS |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------|------------|------------|
| 09/509,449         | 03/28/2000  | 1643         | 840           | 594.352USWO✓   | 2        | 7          | 1          |

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(BH)  
 MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
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 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

Date Mailed: 06/21/2000

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

KATSUMI AOYAGI, SAITAMA, JAPAN;  
 CHIHARU OHUE, SAITAMA, JAPAN;  
 KUMIKO IIDA, SAITAMA, JAPAN;  
 SHINTARO YAGI, SAITAMA, JAPAN;

RECEIVED

AUG 03 2000

PATENT CENTER 1600/2800

## Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/JP99/04129 07/30/1999

## Foreign Applications

JAPAN 10-216094 07/30/1998

## If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 06/21/2000

Title      METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS  
METHOD FOR ASSAYING HEPATITIS C VIRUS

## Preliminary Class

435



S/N unknown

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

AOYAGI, et al.

Docket No.:

594.352USWO

Serial No.:

Unknown

Filed:

concurrent herewith

Int'l Appln No.:

PCTJP9904129

Int'l Filing Date:

July 30, 1999

Title:

METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL 415888455US

Date of Deposit: March 28, 2000

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: *Linda McCormick*  
Name: Linda McCormick

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

AUG 3 1 2000

**COPY**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE TITLE

Please delete the PCT/JP99/04129 title "METHOD FOR ASSAYING HEPATITIS C VIRUS" and insert —METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS—.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith. However, the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

IN THE CLAIMS

In claim 3, line 1, please delete "claim 1 or 2" and insert --claim 1--.

In claim 4, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 1 to 3" and insert —claim 1—.

In claim 5, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 1 to 3" and insert —claim 1—.

In claim 6, line 3, please delete "claims 1 to 5" and insert —claim 1—.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Curtis B. Hamre (Reg. No. 29,165), at (612) 336-4722.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: March 28, 2000

By Curtis B. Hamre

Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165  
CBH:jjw

**COPY**